

PATENT APPLICATION
Navy Case No.: 82,942

REMARKS

Claims 7-20 and 35-45 are pending in the application. Claims 1-6 and 21-34 have been cancelled by this amendment without prejudice, pursuant to a final restriction requirement.

Claims 35-38 are presently allowed.

In claims 9, 10, 16, 17, 36, 37, 40, and 41 have been amended to cancel the unnecessary term "functional," per the Examiner's suggestion.

Claims 8 and 15 have been amended to change "1,4-butadiyne" to "1,4-butadiynylene."

Claims 13 and 39, paragraph 0010, and the Abstract have been amended to cancel the modifier "ethenyl" from "ethenyl crosslinks." Support is found in paragraph 0054, which states that other crosslinking schemes are also possible and are known in the art.

Claims 13 and 39, paragraphs 0010 and 0054, and the Abstract have been amended to change the definition of z from crosslink density to the average number of crosslinks per Y group. This is the intended meaning of crosslink density, in that the number of crosslinks can vary from one repeat unit to another.

None of these amendments are narrowing amendments

The Examiner objected claims 8 and 15, suggesting that "1,4-butadiyne" should be changed to "1,4-butadiynyl." The term has been changed to "1,4-butadiynylene," as it is a divalent radical.

The Examiner objected to claims 13 (14-20 dependent thereon) and 39 (40-45 dependent thereon for use of the term "crosslink density." This term has been changed to "average number of crosslinks per Y group."

The Examiner rejected claims 7-11 under obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patent No. 6,362,289. The attached terminal disclaimer obviates the rejection, without admitting any obviousness of the claimed invention.

The Examiner rejected claims 13-17 under obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patent No. 6,579,955. The attached terminal disclaimer obviates the rejection, without admitting any obviousness of the claimed invention.

The Examiner stated that claims 7-10, 13-20, and 39-45 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the claim objection and/or double patenting rejection. This amendment

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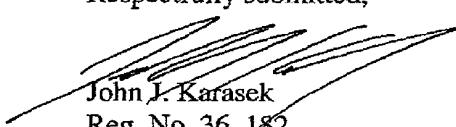
and attached terminal disclaimers render all these claims allowable.

The Examiner stated that claim 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The attached terminal disclaimer renders the base claim 11 allowable. There is no need to rewrite claim 12 in independent form.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance.

In the event that a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0281, and in the event that there is a credit due, please credit Deposit Account No. 50-0281.

Respectfully submitted,


John J. Karasek
Reg. No. 36, 182
Phone No. 202-404-1552
Associate Counsel (Patents)
Naval Research Laboratory
4555 Overlook Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20375-5325



Prepared by:
Joseph T. Grunkemeyer
Reg. No. 46,746
Phone No. 202-404-1556

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

9/23/03

Date

Joseph T. Grunkemeyer